

SENATE RESOLUTION 223  
By McNally

A RESOLUTION to urge the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Tennessee Congressional delegation to investigate methods of controlling and regulating the sale of certain controlled substances over the Internet without a valid prescription.

WHEREAS, the health and safety of the citizens of the United States is of the utmost importance and the proliferation of hundreds of drug dispensing websites on the Internet, which permit American consumers to buy controlled substances from foreign and domestic sources, holds much potential harm and danger; and

WHEREAS, purchasing a controlled substance over the Internet without a valid prescription allows a consumer to circumvent state drug laws, as well as putting that consumer at risk of drug addiction, overdose or receiving a contaminated or counterfeit drug; and

WHEREAS, purchasing and ingesting a controlled substance while not under the care and supervision of a health care professional is unlawful and puts a consumer at risk for serious health consequences; and

WHEREAS, the common Internet procedure of obtaining a controlled substance by completing a questionnaire without actually seeing a physician is unlawful; and

WHEREAS, the potential dangers and risks to the health and well-being of U.S. citizens presented by the online purchase of controlled substances require the expeditious prohibition of such activities to ensure the public health and safety; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that this legislative body hereby urges U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services, Tommy Thompson, Surgeon General Richard H. Carmona, Senator Bill Frist, Senator Lamar Alexander and the Tennessee Congressional Delegation to take all necessary steps to control and regulate the circumvention of state and



federal drug laws by use of the Internet to facilitate the purchase of controlled substances in Schedules I-IV without a valid prescription.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Honorable Tommy Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services, Surgeon General Richard H. Carmona and each member of Tennessee's congressional delegation.